



MI-CW3610

Michigan Crop Weather

September 7, 2010

Wet and Cooler Weather

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending September 5, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation ranged from 1.73 inches to 3.26 inches in the Upper Peninsula and 0.49 inches to 2.29 inches in the Lower Peninsula. Temperatures ranged from 0 to 2 degrees below normal in the Upper Peninsula, and 1 degree above normal to 1 degree below normal in the Lower Peninsula. Rain finally graced much of the state last week, and was a welcome relief; however, some crops were too mature to benefit from the rains. There were some reports of wind damage due to some strong thunderstorms, but no reported crop damage. Harvesting continued, and wheat ground was being prepared along with equipment for the fall harvest. “The recent rain came a little late for doing much to kick up the corn yield, but it may help a few of the bean plants fill out more and develop bigger pods to aid both yield and grain quality,” stated one reporter in the south central Lower Peninsula.

Field Crops

Cooler temperatures and rain, along with some high winds, brought relief to field crops in the mid to later part of the week. Several reporters indicated two inches of rain as most of the state benefited from a healthy rainfall. While mild erosion was reported, there was no damage to crops. Rain actually did more to soften the soil for harvest and **wheat** drilling. **Sugarbeets** sprung back to life while it continued to mature. Harvest continued in a very limited amount as it was still too warm to store excess beets. The precipitation will help harvest go more smoothly. Most of the **corn** will not benefit as much from the rain due to crop maturity. Some high moisture corn was harvested as the crop continued to dry down nicely. **Silage** harvest made great progress at the beginning of the week, but some fields originally intended for silage may be taken for grain now. **Soybeans** were advancing and drying down well as they benefited from the rainfall more than other field crops. The moisture will potentially help fill existing pods. **Dry beans** were turning quickly and continued to be harvested. Some fall weed control was completed as farmers prepared for fall grain harvest.

Fruit

Growing degree days continued to be about two weeks ahead of normal across the state. Dry conditions have begun to affect apple fruit size in the southeast. Early varieties of **apples**, which include Gala, Honeycrisp, and McIntosh, continued to be harvested across the state. Apples continued to color well in the southeast. The hot dry conditions have caused apples to mature quickly. Black rot symptoms have been seen in many apple blocks in the southeast. Late season **peaches** continued to be harvested across the state. Peach harvest has ended in the west central. Harvest of European **plums** continued in the southwest and Grand Rapids areas. Harvest has ended in the southeast. **Strawberry** growth continued to be affected by limited rainfall and potato leafhoppers. Leaf drop continued on **cherry** trees from leaf spot disease. **Pear** harvest continued across the state; it ended in the southeast except for winter pears. Late variety **blueberries** continued to be harvested across the state. Harvest of **grapes** has begun. Harvest of fall **raspberries** continued.

Vegetables

Last week’s rain should aid in corn tip fill issues. Crops harvested included: **pumpkins, gourds, hard squash, carrots, onions, winter squash, cabbage, yellow squash, celery, zucchini** for fresh and processing, **cucumbers** for pickles, **sweet corn, potatoes, snap beans, peppers, watermelon, tomatoes** for fresh and processing, **eggplant, radishes, leeks, and lettuce**. Gummy leaf stem blight may be a problem this year in summer vine crops and can affect fruit in storage. Powdery mildew was widespread but downy mildew on cucumbers was confirmed in 25 counties. Fall vine crops were harvested under sporadic pressure from Phytophthora disease. Pepper pickers, in the Macomb region, were carefully harvesting and keeping an eye out for fruit infested with corn borer. Tomato harvest continued but bacterial spot and speck and foliar blight pressure continued and may be attributed to heat stress in Macomb County. Insect activity included: striped cucumber beetles, European corn borer, and corn earworm.

Soil moisture for week ending 09/05/10

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	21	27	49	3
Subsoil	21	33	45	1

Crop condition for week ending 09/05/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	1	9	27	48	15
Corn	3	7	19	45	26
Dry beans	6	12	29	36	17
Pasture	3	11	37	34	15
Soybeans	2	6	24	45	23

Crop progress for week ending 09/05/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, second cutting	96	93	89	98
All hay, third cutting	60	57	52	66
All hay, fourth cutting	17	11	9	10
Apples, harvested	21	14	10	6
Corn, dough	97	94	74	89
Corn, dent	85	74	20	59
Corn, mature	37	16	0	11
Corn, harvested	1	0	0	0
Corn silage, harvested	57	31	2	22
Dry beans, turning leaves	93	64	41	73
Dry beans, dropping leaves	75	32	16	39
Dry beans, harvested	24	2	0	7
Peaches, harvested	89	88	64	70
Potatoes, harvested	16	9	25	24
Soybeans, turning leaves	51	21	5	31
Soybeans, dropping leaves	15	2	0	6
Sugarbeets, harvested	7	3	0	0

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 09/05/10 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2010	2009	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal Since April 1	Normal For month
Ironwood	79	37		2,063	1,540		1.71	1.72	4.14	20.22		
Marquette	80	40		2,005	1,423		1.27	1.33	3.90	19.98		
Stephenson	84	35		2,326	1,761		2.04	2.08	2.63	19.95		
Western UP	84	33	-2	2,061	1,492	1,721	1.73	1.75	4.18	20.02	17.08	3.58
Cornell	88	44		2,220	1,616		1.58	1.58	1.67	18.00		
Sault St Marie	83	46		2,095	1,439		2.88	3.05	5.43	15.96		
Eastern UP	88	39	0	2,031	1,425	1,515	3.26	3.38	5.11	19.76	16.00	3.55
Beulah	88	49		2,451	1,812		1.57	1.70	2.66	16.92		
Lake City	88	44		2,300	1,734		2.03	2.10	3.18	21.60		
Old Mission	88	49		2,354	1,708		1.18	1.34	3.78	17.11		
Pellston	88	43		2,218	1,618		1.96	2.11	4.74	18.72		
Northwest	88	43	0	2,288	1,671	1,946	1.38	1.50	3.07	16.78	15.05	3.66
Alpena	90	43		2,273	1,730		0.31	0.37	1.79	17.45		
Houghton Lake	87	46		2,421	1,758		1.02	1.22	2.35	17.24		
Rogers City	91	45		2,150	1,697		0.55	0.67	3.27	21.14		
Northeast	91	43	0	2,311	1,718	1,885	0.71	0.83	2.53	19.16	15.11	3.47
Fremont	87	42		2,603	1,972		2.39	2.44	3.76	13.73		
Hart	85	41		2,509	1,862		1.86	1.91	4.61	18.55		
Muskegon	89	54		2,857	2,139		3.95	3.96	5.50	18.73		
West Central	89	41	1	2,606	1,959	2,120	2.29	2.38	4.36	17.03	15.44	3.19
Alma	92	43		2,678	2,034		1.63	1.64	3.44	21.04		
Big Rapids	92	41		2,507	1,873		1.42	1.48	3.97	19.80		
Central	92	41	0	2,586	1,947	2,190	1.25	1.33	3.28	17.59	16.35	3.09
Bad Axe	93	51		2,557	1,898		1.43	1.58	1.69	18.89		
Pigeon	92	51		2,507	1,866		0.73	0.75	1.06	14.65		
Saginaw	92	44		2,807	2,086		0.75	0.77	2.97	15.54		
Standish	92	46		2,462	1,856		1.08	1.12	2.98	21.11		
East Central	93	44	1	2,546	1,924	2,189	1.10	1.14	2.19	17.33	14.56	2.70
Fennville	90	54		2,677	2,060		0.55	0.55	1.61	24.53		
Grand Rapids	91	46		2,942	2,289		0.58	0.62	1.89	22.64		
Holland	93	49		2,916	2,383		1.07	1.07	2.78	30.88		
South Bend, IN	91	47		2,982	2,424		0.98	1.01	1.53	20.98		
Watervliet	90	47		2,839	2,229		0.95	1.02	1.95	20.20		
Southwest	93	42	0	2,825	2,245	2,379	0.92	0.97	2.03	22.04	16.71	3.26
Belding	89	39		2,603	1,994		0.81	0.82	2.13	17.47		
Coldwater	90	45		2,847	2,300		1.19	1.19	1.61	17.99		
Lansing	91	45		2,858	2,168		1.15	1.15	1.52	15.09		
South Central	92	39	-1	2,733	2,134	2,342	1.13	1.13	1.94	19.24	16.72	2.79
Detroit	92	47		3,061	2,458		0.16	0.16	0.71	19.35		
Flint	93	46		2,826	2,117		1.15	1.16	1.28	14.60		
Romeo	91	44		2,708	2,125		0.20	0.20	0.63	13.63		
Tipton	91	42		2,766	2,179		0.73	0.73	1.67	21.96		
Toledo, OH	92	44		3,042	2,469		0.38	0.38	2.54	21.51		
Southeast	93	40	0	2,816	2,270	2,338	0.49	0.49	1.24	18.78	16.03	2.43

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.